



General Assembly

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Agenda item 20 (a)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 20 December 2010

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/65/436/Add.1)]

65/154. International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/193 of 22 December 1992 on the observance of World Day for Water, its resolution 55/196 of 20 December 2000, by which it proclaimed 2003 the International Year of Freshwater, its resolution 58/217 of 23 December 2003, by which it proclaimed the International Decade for Action, “Water for Life”, 2005–2015, to commence on World Water Day, 22 March 2005, its resolution 59/228 of 22 December 2004, its resolution 61/192 of 20 December 2006, by which it proclaimed 2008 the International Year of Sanitation, and its resolution 64/198 of 21 December 2009 on the midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the Decade,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries and General Assembly resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

Recalling further the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development¹ and all its principles, Agenda 21,² the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,³ the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,⁴ the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (“Johannesburg Plan of Implementation”)⁵ and the outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals⁶ and the commitments made therein,

¹ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

³ Resolution S-19/2, annex.

⁴ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁵ *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

⁶ See resolution 65/1.



Emphasizing that water is critical for sustainable development, including environmental integrity and the eradication of poverty and hunger, and is indispensable for human health and well-being and central to achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming the internationally agreed development goals on water and sanitation, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,⁷ and determined to achieve the goal to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or afford safe drinking water, and the goals set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to halve the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation and to develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005, with support to developing countries,

Recalling its resolution 64/292 of 28 July 2010 on the human right to water and sanitation,

Recalling also Human Rights Council resolution 15/9 of 30 September 2010,⁸

Welcoming the outcome and the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its twelfth, thirteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth sessions on the issues of water and sanitation,

Noting the interactive dialogue of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the Decade, convened on 22 March 2010, World Water Day,

Noting also the work of the High-level International Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015, held in Dushanbe on 8 and 9 June 2010,

Noting further the holding of the fifth World Water Forum in Istanbul, Turkey, from 16 to 22 March 2009, and noting that the sixth World Water Forum will be held in Marseille, France, in March 2012,

Remaining concerned by the slow and uneven progress in achieving the goal of halving the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation, while global climate change and other challenges seriously affect water quantity and quality, and in this regard recognizing the crucial role that the International Year of Water Cooperation could play, inter alia, in strengthening dialogue and cooperation at all levels, as appropriate, and its important contribution to the Decade,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015;⁹
2. *Decides* to declare 2013 the International Year of Water Cooperation;
3. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with UN-Water, and mindful of the provisions of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, to take appropriate steps to organize the activities of the Year and to

⁷ See resolution 55/2.

⁸ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/65/53/Add.1)*, chap. II.

⁹ A/65/297.

develop necessary proposals on activities at all levels to support Member States in the implementation of the Year;

4. *Encourages* all Member States, the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the Year to promote actions at all levels, including through international cooperation, as appropriate, aimed at the achievement of the internationally agreed water-related goals contained in Agenda 21,² the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,³ the United Nations Millennium Declaration⁷ and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,⁵ as well as to increase awareness of their importance;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*69th plenary meeting
20 December 2010*